

SPECIAL COMMANDER'S EDITION

SATS NEWS

SATS NEWS
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SATS Program Manager's Corner

This **SPECIAL COMMANDER'S ISSUE** is to inform all commanders and trainers about the tools and features we provide to make the day-to-day management of training in units streamlined and far more bearable.

Many improvements have been made to SATS and it's PC-based supporting suite of tools. *We like to say that we can turn your PC into "your training staff in a box."* The initial goal of SATS was to reverse the 3 days of planning for 1 day of training to 1 day of planning for 3 days of training. We believe SATS 4.1 met this goal and in fact has gone beyond it in several areas.

If you are reading this SATS Newsletter, you are also in possession of many of our latest training management or commander information support tools. We fielded or made available from the SATS web site: SATS Training Vignettes, Training Feedback Module, Unit Collective Training Support Package Module, Quarterly Training Brief Power Tool, Combined Arms Training Strategy Viewer, Training Support Package Viewer, Army Task Viewer. Each of these unit support products will be explained in separate articles in this newsletter.

SATS software and unit products were requested by your unit representative on the Trainers Unit Support System (TRUSS) request form. To date we have distributed nearly 17,000 copies of SATS

to approximately 700 different unit sites. An article to explain TRUSS is also in this newsletter.

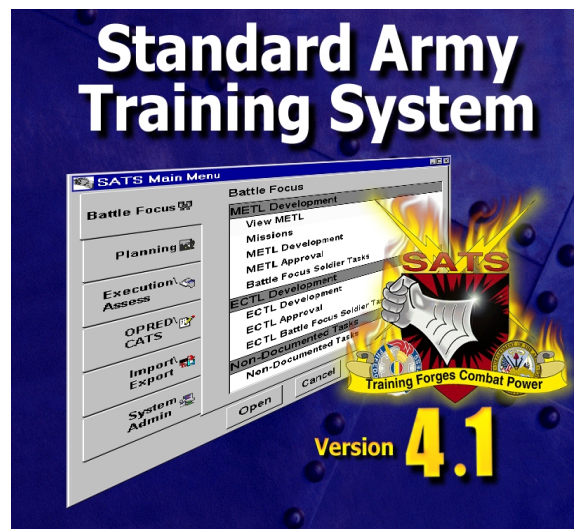
In this newsletter we discuss the types of training we offer and some of the feedback we have received about the training and comments about the software. The SATS 4.1 CDs contain a full function tutorial, System Administration manual, and a Users manual to assist you in getting started using the program. Unless you were a routine user of the SATS 4.0 software nothing is better than full-blown training.

The Training Feedback Module (TFM) has undergone significant changes. This evaluation software package is designed to automate the Observer and Controller requirements when doing training evaluations. The TFM has been greatly enhanced with input from the Center for Army Lessons Learned (CALL) at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and the staff of the National Training Center, Ft

Irwin, California. More details on the TFM are also provided later in this newsletter.

There are many other important pieces of information in this newsletter such as the upcoming SATS 4.1 patch and the Army collective task-renumbering plan. Please read on and discover more about the future of automation in Army training!

SATS PM



SATS NEWS, Fall/Winter 1998

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Articles and items related to SATS are invited. Direct communication is authorized to: Editor, SATS NEWS, USATSC, ATTN: ATIC-TISU, Fort Eustis, VA 23604-5166, DSN 927-4166, (757) 878-4166, Ext. 229, FAX (757) 878-2453.

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SATS NEWS is available free to Active, Reserve, and National Guard units through Major Commands and installation SATS points of contact (POC).

New Collective Task Numbering and the SATS 4.1 Mandatory Patch

During the Spring 99 time frame the Army collective task numbering system will be changed. This change is necessary to properly develop the new Combined Arms Training Strategies (CATS) and to give proponent task developers more flexibility to create more detailed tasks. The new numbering system will remove some confusion in those rare chances when two different tasks have the same number.



During this conversion period SATS operators will not be able to download a Mission Training Plan (MTP) or individual collective tasks from the Army Doctrine and Training Digital Library (ADTDL) TRAMOD Executive Management Information System (TEXMIS) web site. A warning message will provide information about the delay and other very important information about the SATS 4.1 patch due out about late 1998 or early 1999. This patch must be loaded if you intend to download new collective tasks into SATS 4.1. You can use the MTPs from your SATS 4.1 CD until that time. Again, you must load this patch to your current SATS 4.1 to provide expanded screens to properly view the newer task numbers from TEXMIS.

Another SATS Newsletter will be published before 1 Apr 99 to provide you an update. SATS 4.1 users who will change to SATS 4.2 in late 1999 must first convert to the new number system using the SATS 4.1 patch.

Go to the TEXMIS or SATS web sites for more information on this change.

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SATS 4.1 Vignettes **The Commander's Tool**

SATS 4.1 vignettes provide self-paced instruction in the use of the software and excellent training tool for commanders and trainers. Unless you are a SATS operator, it is difficult to understand and appreciate the benefits of using SATS. Not only is SATS the only system that utilizes the most recently developed training task information, but also takes care of the administrative work to



produce reports, lists, coordination details, schedules, calendars, and a multitude of resource and training cost reports.

The vignettes assume that the operator understands the principals of FM 25-100 and FM 25-101. Those who are not fully familiar with Army training management are encouraged to view the SATS Tutorial located on the SATS 4.1 CDs. It does not describe FM 25-100 and -101 verbally, but if you walked through the tutorial with the FM, it would give an excellent presentation of how the guidance is applied in units.

The tutorial provides two types of instruction. The recommended method is following cues and directions and completing the interactions just as a user would in an operational setting. The second method is to "learn by discovery." In this method, the user does not have to perform the procedures, but simply clicks on the forward arrow in the navigation bar or the <right arrow> key on the keyboard and the scenario proceeds just as if the user had performed the actions. Users may employ these two methods interchangeably.

There are seven vignettes, an overview vignette, and one for each of the SATS modules. The overview vignette incorporates a function from each of the SATS modules with the focus on the most commonly used function. The other vignettes each address a module and contain detailed interactions for that module.

The module vignettes include the following:

- **Battle Focus:** Viewing METLs, selecting and sequencing missions, developing METLs and Battle Focus Soldier Tasks, and Associating Individual Tasks.
- **Planning:** Creating Event codes, developing METL task training frequencies and training strategies, creating long-range and short-range plans, establishing coordinated activities, and developing resource projections and budget allocations.
- **Execution/Assessment:** Recording training task evaluations, training task assessments, and resource expenditures.
- **Operational Readiness/CATS:** Developing current or projected operational readiness and CATS reports.
- **Import/Export:** Exchanging training data between superior and subordinate units.
- **System Admin:** Establishing unit force structure, user profiles and IDs, changing users, databases, and passwords, and unit customization.

The vignettes require no interaction unless the user wishes to participate. Because of the size of each vignette, we recommend you view them from the CD. Each are about 15 minutes and narrated for multimedia systems with a sound card.

The SATS 4.1 vignettes were distributed to all registered TRUSS POC locations. The basis of issue is one vignette for every 10 copies of the SATS 4.1 software sets shipped to the same location. The vignettes can be locally reproduced.

For additional training info contact the SATS Mobile Training Teams at DSN 927-4744, (757) 873-1100, or www.satsbbs.com.



Commander's Toolbox

The Commander's Toolbox is found on the SATS web site. This toolbox provides small applications to meet short-term unit information needs. There are new tools being added to the toolbox for download. Currently the available tools are:

The Army Task Viewer (ATV) tool gives the ability to view and print T&EOs for any of the thousands of the Army's collective, individual, and drill tasks without the need to use SATS. This tool can use the MTPs, Drills or STPs loaded on your SATS 4.1 source CD, the SATS 4.1 database, or a downloaded file from TEXMIS

The Quarterly Training Brief Power Tool (QTBPow). This tool creates QTB slides in FM 25-101 format from SATS 4.1 data. This requires the user to properly use SATS to reap the benefits.

The Combined Arms Training Strategy Viewer (CATS-V). This tool gives the ability to view and print CATS strategies from both the SATS 4.1 database or a downloaded file from TEXMIS. Because of a formatting requirement it will not use the CATS files that are provided in the SATS 4.1 source CD.

The Training Support Package Viewer (TSPV). This tool gives the ability to view and print TSPs from both the SATS 4.1 database or a downloaded file from TEXMIS. It will not view the example TSPs on the SATS source CD but will give you view and print capability for any unit or proponent built TSP from any SATS TSP source.

We are working on a SATS Coordination Detail Suspense Tool (CDST). This will read the coordination detail and scheduled events and flash a reminder on the screen. This should be available in the SAT 4.2 delivery in late 1999.

These viewers do not replace the full functionality as provided with using the SATS software. Stay tuned for more applications for the Commander's Toolbox. These will be announced in future issues of SATS NEWS.

Remember: Go to <http://www.satsbbs.com> to register for download access to these and other files.

SATS 4.0 Support Stops Spring '99

SATS version 4.0 support will be discontinued as early as the Dec 98-Jan 99 time frame. Units that have yet to convert to SATS 4.1 are urged to do so immediately. This is also the last notice for SATS 3.1 users to convert to 4.0 then 4.1 before support shuts down.

SATS 4.0 was the first giant leap for the SATS project which was about 7 years in the making at the time 4.0 hit the field. It was the first Windows version of its type and took off like a rocket in units. Just in the first 6 months of use in the field, a survey of users gave SATS 4.0 a 2.5 on a scale of 0-3 on the satisfactory of performance. Unfamiliar new areas pulled the score down .25 points.

SATS 4.0 has some major outdated features that make it impossible to fix. Although it can still use the MTPs and STPs on the ALL-IN-ONE CD, it cannot import any of the new task information and it cannot import nor display the CATS information.

SATS 4.0 is also not fully Y2K compliant. Although it will still run calculations in resourcing, it does not display the four-digit date (e.g., 2000, 2001) in all the appropriate areas.

The issue with the conversion of the current task number to the new unique numbering system also makes SATS 4.0 obsolete. As mentioned, the numbering system is being changed to enforce uniqueness. SATS 4.0 fields and reports are not repairable in this regard.

Experienced SATS 4.0 users should find it very easily to convert to SATS 4.1; if not, contact the SATS Help Desk. Also, see the other articles in this newsletter for training courses.





Resourcing , Resourcing and More Resourcing Special Capabilities Planned for SATS 4.2

The area no one likes to work with has been changed to allow you greater flexibility. The Patch A now allows you to enter separate budget source codes (BSC) for organizational costs for Class III and IX. Previously the information you entered for Class III was automatically attributed to the corresponding Class IX item. When a new Class III or Class IX record is created, SATS will continue to create a duplicate record for the other class, but it will not have an association with that item. This allows the items to be changed independently.

Great, now you can read about the stuff that is coming down the line. Tracking each item of equipment being used during a training activity can be a royal pain. Realizing this, SATS 4.2 plans to make your life a little easier. In addition, we will provide assistance in using the Class V you received.

As part of SATS 4.2, the CATS in Automated Systems Approach to Training (ASAT) are projected to provide Class III and V information. Now you will have an automated baseline for developing your training. This will allow you to build your resource requirements based on something other than whole cloth. Class III will be presented by line item number and hours/miles for the activity. You will of course have to select the particular equipment you are going to use for the activity and the to/from hours/miles.

As an added bonus, since you will have the Class III information and SATS provides you the ability to copy this information to Class IX, you do not have to determine your Class IX except for those items which do not use Class III.

Would you like to have the opportunity to have direct input to the Battalion Level Training Module (BLTM) and maybe influence the amount of training dollars you receive? SATS 4.2 is your chance to provide input to the BLTM. SATS 4.2 is projected to initially provide a Class III roll-up capability of actual expenditures to BLTM. This will allow the

BLTM folks to identify what you actually use in hours/miles. There is a BIG catch here however. This will only work if your unit and your superior unit(s) use SATS, and you use the resource portion of SATS. SATS and the CATS portion of Automated Systems Approach to Training (ASAT) are combining to provide input to BLTM. DA will then be able to show Congress the 800 tank miles equivalents they allocated per type unit only translated to 675 available miles. Consequently, given the training requirements established by CATS, the unit was only able to conduct 84 percent of its required training. This will provide the hard figures DA needs to ask Congress for additional funding. Again, this will only work if you and your superior unit(s) use SATS and its resourcing module. No other automated system within the Army is capable of doing this.

As mentioned earlier SATS 4.2 would provide assistance in using Class V. In coordination with ASAT/CATS, we plan to provide Standards in Training Commission Class V requirements. You will only have to determine how many weapons systems you plan to use for the event and how you intend to expend the non-weapons system resources (grenades, pyrotechnics, etc). No longer will you have to look up the tables and calculate how much to expend for a training action.

As you can see, in SATS 4.2 we plan to provide an increased ability to handle resourcing and the ability to input YOUR requirements to DA. However, none of these capabilities are worth anything unless you and your superior units use SATS.

Using SATS not only provides you an easy means of automating the training management in your unit, you will now have a chance to influence the resources you receive in the future. As these developments occur, we will update you on the enhancements.

More information will be published in future newsletters, on the SATS web site, and in DA published policy and guidance in the near future.

Remember: Go to <http://www.satsbbs.com> to read about other changes to the SATS program



Special Training Opportunities for Both SATS Operators and Commanders and Staff Personnel

The SATS team now offers a 4-hour Commanders and Staff Orientation training program. This program is specifically designed to bring all senior unit members up to speed on SATS and its support tools without the need to attend the 40 hour course.

Most commanders and senior staff are not aware of the training management efficiencies and reports available in SATS. Successful implementation of SATS relies on the participation of each and every level of command. This training is available both on weekdays and weekends. The orientation starts with a short slide presentation of the SATS big picture, including the available SATS support, products that are bundled with the SATS software and the future of SATS. This is followed by a short overview of Army training management according to FMs 25-100 and 25-101. This is followed by details on each of the independent SATS modules and how they support unit training management, decision process, and operating report requirements.

The demand for the Staff and SATS operators training is so great, that as of mid-September, the 1st Quarter of Fiscal Year (FY) 99 (Oct-Nov-Dec) is already fully committed. If you are considering SATS training this FY, plan 90-120 days out for dates. You can check the current training schedule and open dates on the SATS web page @ www.satsbbs.com. When you have decided on some dates for SATS training, call 1-800-201-7287 or DSN 927-4744. We will do everything possible to accommodate your desired dates, but understand that we can only schedule three missions per week, and training is strictly first come, first served. So have some alternative dates in mind when you call.

You should also be aware that the published draft Army Regulation 350-1 has been distributed to the field. It is to be used in draft form and states in paragraph 2-18 that commanders *"at all levels of command" (both active and reserve component), will use "SATS, when available."* We are here to help make this happen. With over 17,000 sets of SATS version 4.1 in the field, it is safe to conclude

that the software is currently available to anyone who wants it.

As for how the program supports units, below are a few comments SATS has received:

"In my 20 years of Army service, SATS has to be the best development money we have spent for training." MAJ, AL Army National Guard

"I've used SATS 3.1 and SATS 4.0. SATS 4.1 is by far the best yet. Keep up the good work..." SFC, Ft Lewis, WA

"With this (SATS), the Army now has an excellent system. We need to get the chain of command more involved to ensure that all are using it." 1LT, Ft Lewis, WA

"Where was this program when I was at company level? This is great stuff, especially the Individual Task Cross-walking." MSG, VT Army National Guard

"Once the Patch is on line, SATS 4.1 will be perfect. It's great to see the Army making the Training NCO job's easier." SSG, Ft Wainwright, AK

"There should be MANDATORY basic training of SATS until it becomes a routine procedure within the Army." DA Civilian, Vilseck, GE

"I worked with SATS 4.0 for awhile, but never knew all of it's potential. After the SATS 4.1 class I will be better able to use SATS to it's fullest." SPC, Ft Huachuca, AZ

Continue to get the word out to senior leaders about what SATS 4.1 can do. Most of them have the perception that it hasn't changed since SATS 3.1. I had the same perception, but not any more. Great program and great class." CPT, Ft Meade, MD

"A good product and a very helpful class. It will definitely improve training procedures within the USAR." DA Civilian, Army Reserve, PR

Don't wait, contact us now and get your training time locked in before the schedule fills up!



SATS 4.2 Training Feedback Module (TFM)

Just when you thought TFM couldn't get any better, we have several major improvements planned to create the latest and greatest version yet. TFM 4.2 version will be as simple to use as the current edition but with enhanced and expanded capabilities. This new edition will offer two paths for users, one for local evaluators and another for Observers/Controllers (O/Cs) at the Combat Training Centers (CTCs).

Local evaluators will have the ability to export from SATS 4.2 and various SATS TSP programs, link directly to TEXMIS, and build non-documented tasks on the fly. As with our current TFM, all evaluation information can be imported back into SATS for use with the assessment module and for storing all evaluation records. The local unit evaluators using SATS 4.2 TFM will also have an AAR generating tool and the ability to export all reports to MS Word or MS PowerPoint so you can highly customize your AAR for whatever format necessary.

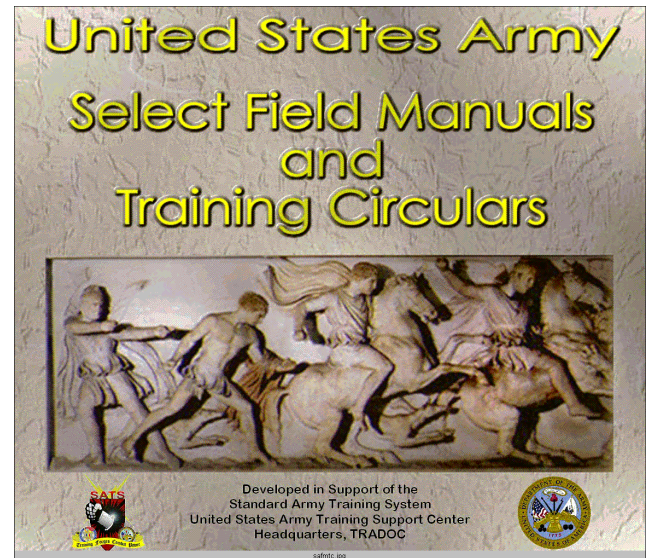
The CTC evaluator will also have as wide a range of options. Just like local evaluators, O/Cs will also be able to export from both SATS 4.2 and TSP programs, link to TEXMIS and have the ability to modify and renumber doctrinal task along with the capability to build non-documented tasks on the fly. There will also be an option to export to the Center for Army Lessons Learned Collection Observation Management System (CALLCOMS) data collection tool.

The O/Cs will also have a full range of pre-rotation packet development capabilities. Already developed a TSP for the rotation? No problem, the TFM will accept an export. Want to build your own? The pre-rotation development options will allow the user to focus on unit training status, personnel status, equipment status, unit commanders' training objectives, augmentee information, and just about anything else you could imagine.

Look for more TFM update on the SATS web site.

The SATS Select Field Manuals and Training Circulars Electronic Library

This CD-ROM suite contains a selection of Army Field Manuals and Training Circulars in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF).



This CD suite was distributed to all SATS TRUSS POC locations. Although these CDs have a tremendous value to units as an electronic "cut-and-paste" library, their initial intent was to support the uses of the SATS TSP module.

To get the main instructions to operate the CD set load disk 1, click on the "HOME" icon and follow the instructions. On the top of this instructions page is a button called "LP/OP." This button takes you to a web site on the ADTDL to view a list of most recently republished TMs and TCs. The web site address located in the last sentence of the instructions page no longer exists. The new temporary address has been set to: <http://155.217.58.58/atdl/register/update.htm>. This site will provide the information you need to update your library until a new permanent site is published.

Note that downloaded updates are loaded on your hard drive and not on to the CD.



SATS Version 4.2 Training Support Package (TSP) Module

The Warfighter XXI TSP Module is part of SATS suite of tools and is the first of its type in form and function. We have received several comments from users who found it at least an 80 percent solution in nearly all cases. Those cases where it has not met unit needs are simple differences in paragraph titles or splitting/combining of paragraphs. Some of the major differences pertain to TSPs that would support the use of simulations. We are looking into these instances for possible changes to future versions of the TSP.

The single issue raised to date is in the cut and paste feature of the TSP Module. Normally you can cut and paste into the TSP tool from commonly used commercial word-processing applications. Since the TSP tool has its own "tables" as defined by the Warfighter XXI model, neither the importing of text "tables" nor graphics from other sources was included in the tool. When pasting text from "tables," the source application may attach certain "key" characters that identify the table to the text.

This may cause the TSP Module to reject the text. To avoid this, copy the text into a word-processing tool that does not support graphics such as WordPad or Notepad. These can only handle the rich text format. These types of applications strip out the graphic codes leaving only the text. They cannot handle large amounts of text at one time; therefore, you may have to break your text into small blocks for stripping. Once your TSPs have been converted, you will no longer need to build text tables. The SATS TSP tool will provide this capability only where necessary.

Users are encouraged to use the TSP for all planned training and begin to share them with other units locally and Armywide through the TEXMIS web site.

Combined Arms Training Strategies (CATS) for SATS Version 4.2

Ever wonder what are the most effective ways to train your Mission Essential Task List (METL), and what will it take to do it? Well, SATS 4.2 will be provide you the newest CATS that are designed to do just that.

In SATS version 4.2, CATS will be an integrated as part of the task supporting information. An example would be in the training strategy. SATS will provide units a pick list of recommended sort options supported by CATS. From this, a unit can choose the training exercises they will put in their plan or may create one of their own. As in SATS 4.1, CATS will not be available for all units initially, but eventually all units will have a proponent developed CATS to assist units in developing unit plans.

Providing resource requirements is another feature of CATS. For example, if an armor company is scheduled to perform live fire training or a qualifying gunnery table, CATS would indicate the number or rounds required per tank or per unit and a projection of how many miles per tank or per unit. The CATS information in SATS 4.1 will remain the same with updates provided through downloads from TEXMIS and the SATS web site.

Remember, as an outcome of integrating CATS resource capability, SATS 4.2 will have the capability to export unit training resource expenditures to HQDA. This is part of the emerging Operational Readiness (OPRED) effort which depends on direct unit input to the process that resources all Army unit training. Regulatory and policy guidance is forthcoming.

The TRADOC POC for CATS content and methodology is Roland Thompson, DSN 680-5566, (757) 728-5566, or email thomps2@monroe.army.mil.



SATS Trainers Unit Support System (TRUSS) System Changes

We made some recent changes in the TRUSS request system to make ordering and shipping of SATS and supporting software more efficient. One of these changes was to involve the commander (or a designated representative) to be involved in the ordering process.

To improve the delivery performance of this system, reduce redundancy and wasted product, we are requiring a commander's signature. In lieu of the commander, designated representative such as the XO, SGM, 1SGT, S3, G3 or civilian equivalent is acceptable as signature authority on the form.

We made this decision to avoid the variety of errors that impacted everything from the shipment of software to simply contacting the unit to clarify information. We have also received calls from units that received the SATS software and had no idea why they received it.

Another issue is consolidation of shipments up to brigade level. More and more requests are being submitted from units located on the same installation or the same street or building, where there are existing accounts. The TRUSS form instructions are clear in this matter. Multiple shipments to the same location can be costly and in some cases delays delivery. Some of these requests have been honored to ensure the software is delivered. This office will increase efforts to consolidate where possible to the next level of command.

We have also established account numbers for each TRUSS POC. This numbering system utilizes the location code or state code, e.g., CA1 for

California account 1 or AE1 for Army Europe account 1. Once these account numbers have been assigned, all correspondence to this office must include this information for processing. This information has been sent directly to each TRUSS POC. This packet asks each account holder to validate his information and to complete and return a new TRUSS form to confirm receipt of the packet. The account number will be required for all inquiries about SATS to more readily access your account.

Approximately 17,000 copies of SATS 4.1 software have been shipped as of Nov 1998 with additional requests coming in daily.

Shipments are being made to all levels of command to include resident training sites. As more commanders and trainers become familiar with the training management capabilities and benefits of SATS,

we are receiving larger orders for the software. These orders support local training such as pre-command courses and proponent school needs. Along with these special orders, we are providing a

SATS Vignette CD to support local SATS training. See the article on SATS Vignettes in this newsletter for more information.

All requests for the SATS software must be made using the TRUSS form (see the back cover of the TRUSS directory). Requests must be coordinated with your chain of command to ensure superior unit commands have not already requested the software. Please read the TRUSS form before ordering for more instructions on the SATS-TRUSS system requirements.

Included in the mailing of this newsletter is a copy of the TRUSS Directory. Please review your ordering information and submit changes as necessary.





SATS OPERATORS TECHNICAL AND SPECIAL NOTICE PAGE

The **SATS USER TECH PAGE** provides special bits and pieces of information about SATS, its support tools, information services, and other need-to-know items.

-Some of our SATS users asked how to use email to ask questions of our Help Desk. First click on the "Comments to Webmaster" on the first page. This will get you the "Web Wizard" who will answer you directly for forward your message to the appropriate Help Desk person. Also from the Commander's Toolbox, you can click on "Help Desk Mail" for direct email for assistance. You can also use direct email from you own system to helpdesk@SATSbbs.com. If you are familiar with the Help Desk personnel and want to email them directly, use the format of "lastname.firstname@satsbbs.com".

-Some of the changes to the SATS web site are visible while others are not. The change you may notice right away is the new look given to the web site. A new counter has been added to the opening page of the web site. While externally this counter may keep track of visitors, it also allows us to track other information from the visitor as well. We know what operating systems and internet browsers are being used, where the visitors are located (state and country), which organization they belong to, the time and day of their visit, as well as other vital information that will help us improve our web site and provide a more secure environment for our users.

Currently we are giving a face-lift to the Commander's Toolbox area. This face lift includes the latest versions and patches to SATS 4.1, the new TRUSS form, which is being redesigned using Visual Basic programming, as well as the addition of the TSP and Army Task Viewers and their appropriate operating manuals. The Commander's Toolbox also includes the latest releases of the SATS newsletters, and the most current updates of the SATS Training Team schedules. We also maintain a current list of FAQ's for SATS 4.1 users so their "down time" may be kept at a minimum. All of these additions are also currently available from the SATS web site main page.

-Here are some special instructions to remember to do prior to installing the upcoming SATS 4.1 patch. Before installing the patch make a backup copy of your current data base and .ini files. The SATS41.db is located in your SATSDATA directory and the SATS.INI file is located in your SATS41 directory folder. Create a new folder called SATSOLD and copy these files to that

folder. If for any reason there is a PC failure during the conversion you would be able to uninstall the corrupt SATS program, reinstall SATS 4.1, then copy over the initial data base and ini files to their original location so you could attempt the patch installation again. It is always as good practice to make a copy of these files at least once a week just in case.

-The beta SATS 4.1 patch files on the SATS BBS have been removed pending release of the final patch program. Thanks to all of you who used this beta patch and provided us feedback on its effectiveness.

-We would like you to know the depth of experience that is available to you in support of SATS, its suite of tools and services. The core SATS group of 6 individuals here at ATSC has the responsibility to oversee all processes and support work connected to SATS and its tools and services. These 6 individual have a combined service in the training arena of over 130 years.

The PROSOFT group that performs much of the analysis, training development, Mobile Training Team scheduling, and Help Desk work has a combined service of over 350 years of experience among 20 or so individuals. Most of these contracted personnel are retired military and provide a vast foundation of knowledge to the SATS effort.

The Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station (NCTAMS), another contracted group, is responsible for the actual programming effort for SATS. They have a combined service of about 220 years or so among about 18 personnel also of variable backgrounds that also lend a great deal of knowledge and technical expertise to the SATS effort.

-The Mobile Training Team members have put together an abbreviated SATS 4.1 training manual. This manual is designed for the SATS operator trying to get started by themselves while awaiting for the formal training. This manual along with the vignettes should do the trick. Check the SATS web site for availability.

-We would like to solicit from you any additional bits of information you would like to share with other SATS users. If have learned a few tricks from manipulating your data and feel it will help others, forward your idea to the Help Desk for our FAQ list and in future Newsletters.



The Army Training Information Systems Directorate Programs That Support You

ATIMP is a DA DCSOPS program (ATSC is the Executive Agent) to accomplish responsibilities outlined in DA Pam 25-1, Army Information Architecture. The ATIMP mission is to provide Army wide focus, guidance, and oversight to the development, integration, and operations of training information systems. ATIMP oversees 25+ Army training information systems that support institutional training, unit training, and training support. The ATIMP provides: A management support infrastructure to enhance the coordination of system, process, and data integration and to preclude the development of unnecessary or redundant training business processes, business rules, and information systems. A coordinated system of change management to ensure all related functional user requirements are considered prior to effecting changes. Increased productivity by assisting functional users to remove or replace obsolete and labor intensive systems, processes, business rules and data. support and enforcement of the Joint Technical Architecture - Army (JTA-Army) to ensure data standardization, and interoperability through open systems concepts within the training mission area. ATIMP is also the Army lead for the AT XXI Architecture.

ASAT is a management and information system which provides total task management and creation capability. The software provides the capability to link information from a designated Unit Type to mission, Battlefield Operating System, echelon, training products, references, doctrine, to collective tasks. The collective tasks are linked to individual tasks. The individual tasks are linked to Occupational Specialties, courses, ASI/QSI, jobs, products, categories, and subject areas as some examples of linkages. Essentially any query against Army task information can be accomplished using the software. ASAT will make two deliveries over the next six months. Version 3.2, delivery Sep 96, will enhance the Individual Task Analysis with the capability of linking Skills and Knowledge at the Task Step level. ASAT provides additional task management capabilities, and integration with Training Module (TRAMOD) Executive Management Information System (TEXMIS) and the Standard Army Training System (SATS).

TEXMIS is an automated training information system, which allows the Army branch proponent schools, units, and Department of the Army training information systems to share common data. It is a data warehouse of readily available critical training and doctrinal information. TEXMIS serves to gather and disseminate training and doctrinal information. It acts as a bridge between proponent schools and units, with data flowing among the Army proponent schools, from proponent schools to units, and from units to proponent schools. The system contains hundreds of Army Training and Evaluation Program (ARTEP) products, Soldier Training Publications, Drills, Training Support Packages and Officer Foundation Standards and more than 26,000 collective and individual tasks developed within the proponent schools using ASAT. The data is the most current training data.

ADTDL is a user friendly interface to approved Army training and doctrine information on the World Wide Web (WWW). It provides seamless access to distributed libraries throughout the Army. Field Manuals (FM) and Training Circulars (TC), made available in concert with the US Army Training and Doctrine Command, Deputy Chief of Staff for Doctrine (TRADOC/DCSDOC). These documents are converted to an electronic format. Mission Training Plans (MTP) and Soldier Training Publications (STP) are produced as virtual documents (HTML "on-the-fly") from proponent information in TEXMIS. Virtual documents are only available in HTML. Drills and Officer Foundation Standards are handled in the same manner as MTPs and STPs. The ADTDL uses Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) as its primary document format for online viewing. HTML can be viewed by all WWW browser software, and requires no special configuration, or installation of special viewers or "plug-in" software.

AIMS-R is an automated, interactive training information management system that will enable Army schools, training centers, and NCO academies to administer and monitor resident individual training. It will be made available to every Army installation and offered to the Army Reserve and National Guard. AIMS-R's goal is to provide timely, accurate information upon which to base critical training decisions and to support integration of the institutional and self-development pillars of training. Major AIMS-R users will be policy decision makers/ resource managers, training managers, and training support personnel. The system will subsume the current resident training management system, Automated Instructional Management System (AIMS); Program of Instruction Management Module (POIMM); and TRADOC Automated Training Scheduling System (TATSS). AIMS-R provides several key improvements over the current AIMS. Besides AIMS-R being a real time, interactive system and AIMS being an inflexible,

data-entry mandated system, there are several AIMS-R capabilities that are new to training management. The most obvious is that AIMS-R operates in a Windows environment and has Windows-related features such as on-line help.

SATS is the Army's automated unit training management system for units. SATS harnesses the power of the computer and automates training doctrine in FM 25-100 (Training the Force), FM 25-101 (Battle Focus Training), and FM 100-5 (Operations). SATS supports: training development and scheduling down to company and squad level; produces training schedules, calendars, plans, resource requirements, readiness reports; allows roll up through brigade staff level; incorporates data sharing with other systems; balances training events, plans and resources prior to training execution; identifies paths to accomplish training goals so that units can go through what if drills to include usage of CATS, land, ranges and other training facilities, and resources at installation level. SATS performs all the necessary manipulation of training collective and individual task and planning information and produces a multitude of unit reports, schedules, calendars in a wide variety of sorts and filters virtually eliminating most administrative requirement to support commander's needs.

Managing Training Information with Soldiers in Mind

